

King County Equity and Social Justice Discussion

Rural Forest Commission

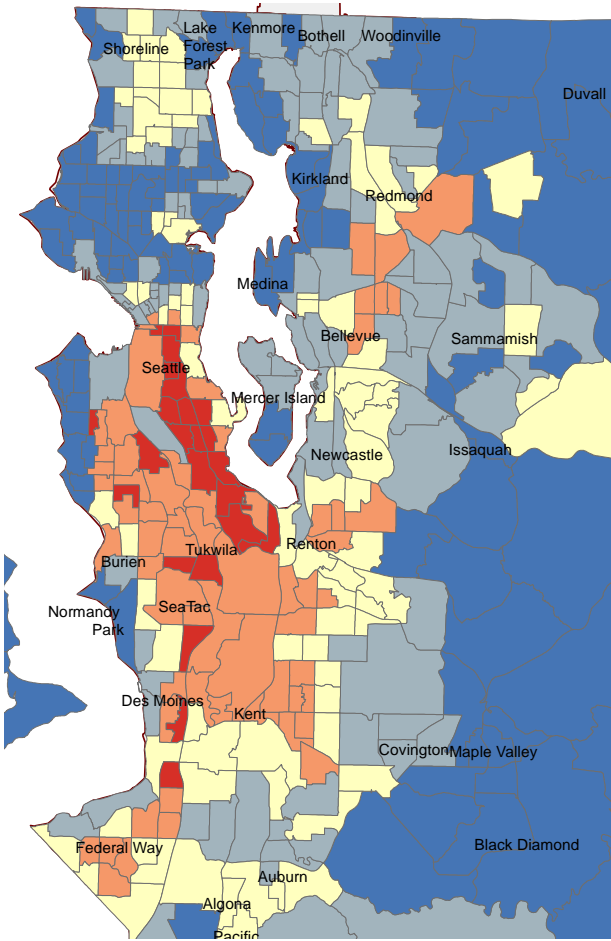
Richard Gelb, January 2016



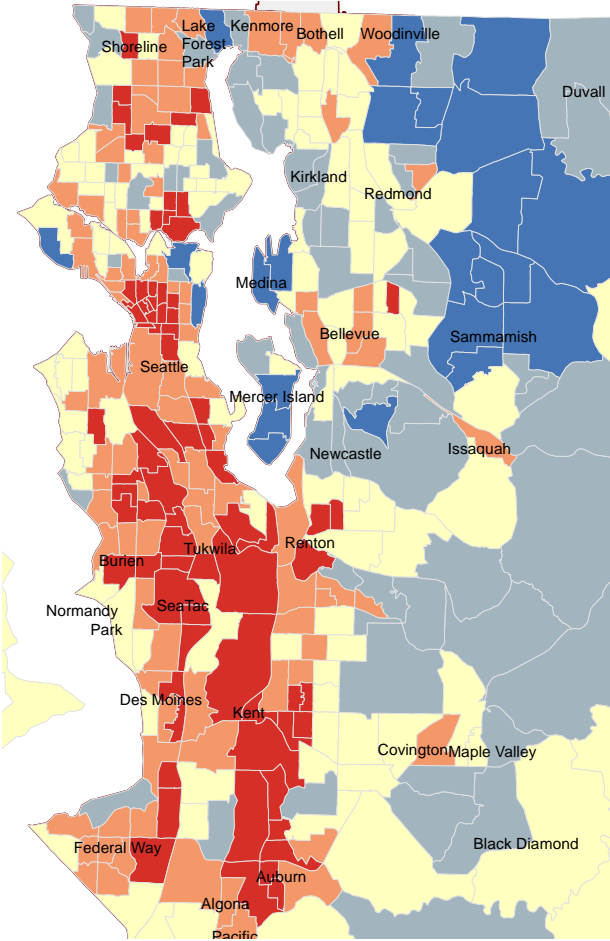
King County

Demographics Across King County

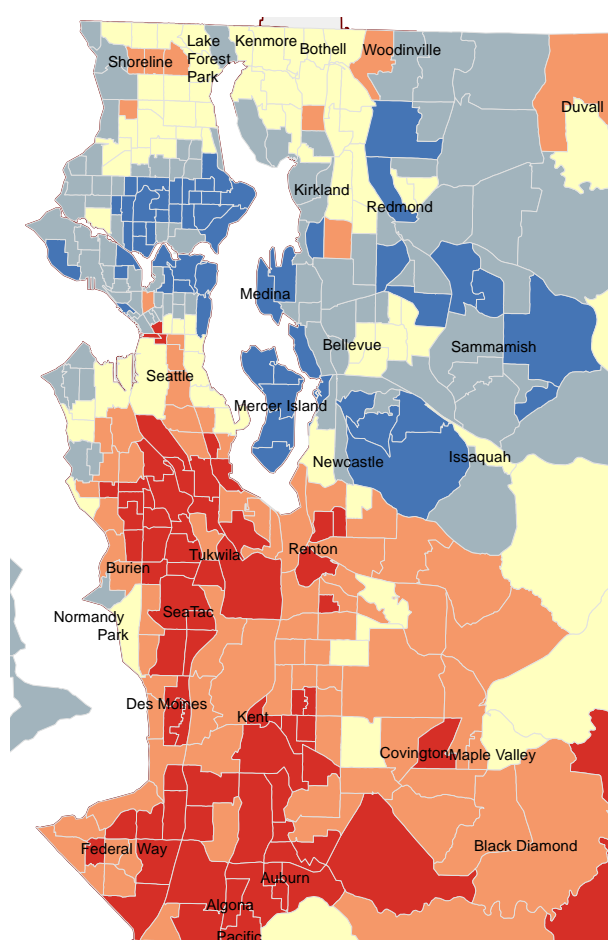
People of Color



Low Income



Low Educational Attainment



Progress on Equity and Social Justice in King County

- “Fair and just” - guiding principle for King County Strategic Plan (2010)
- ESJ Ordinance 16948 unanimously approved (2010)
 - Establishes definitions
 - Expands the inter-agency team
 - Annual reporting on actions and results
- Developing an Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan (2015-16)

What is Equity?

A system of fairness



“All people have full and equal access to opportunities that enable them to attain their full potential.”

Inequity

Differences that are...

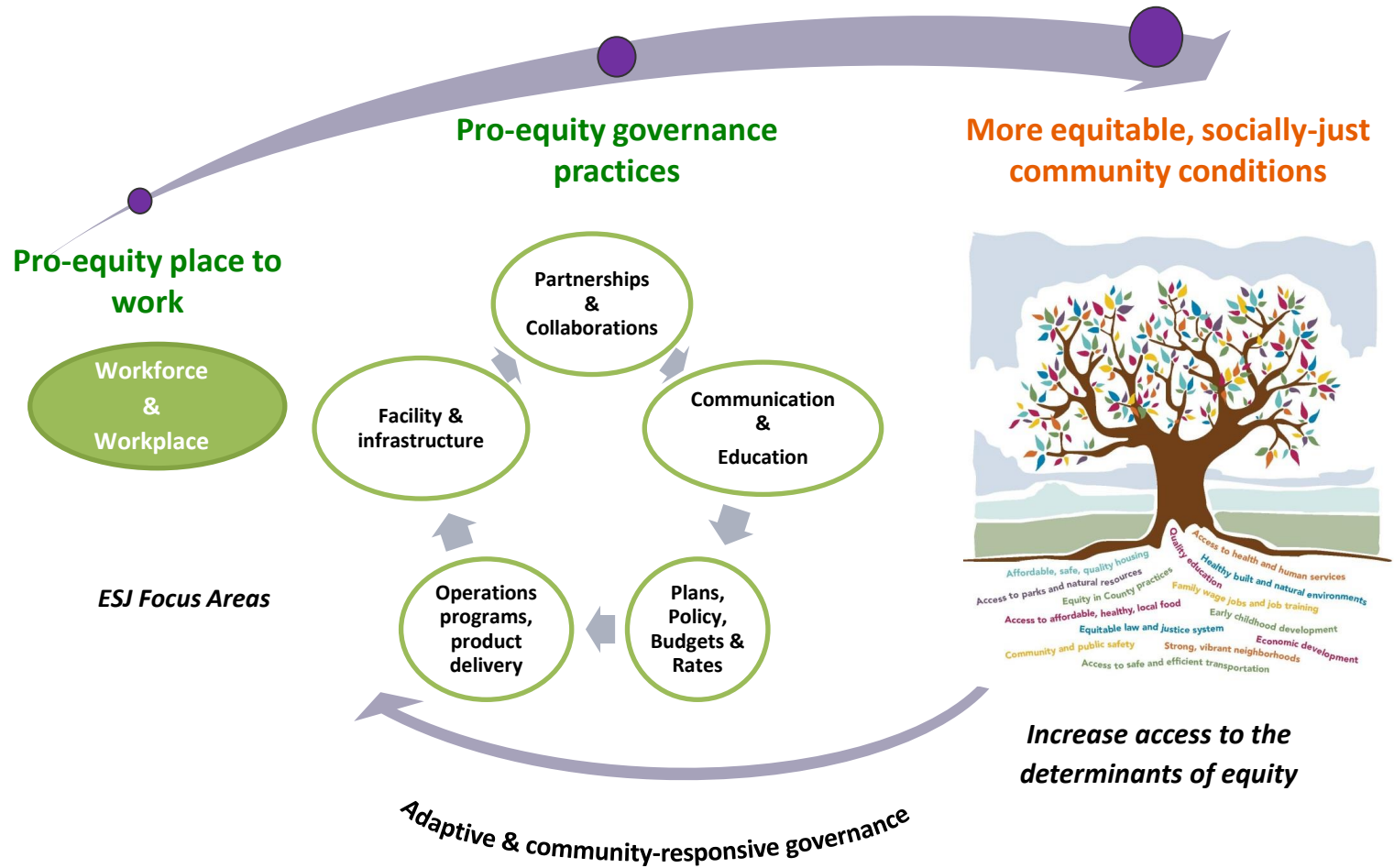
...Systematic

...Patterned

...Unfair

“ Differences in well-being that disadvantage one individual or group in favor of another. These differences are systematic, patterned and unfair and can be changed. Inequities are not random; they are caused by past and current decisions, systems of power and privilege, policies and the implementation of those policies.”

King County Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan





How does this distinction apply to rural forestry?

BUILDING EQUITY

STRUCTURES, POLICIES
AND INSTITUTIONAL
PRACTICES IN **SOCIETY**

CONDITIONS IMPACTING THE HEALTH AND
WELL-BEING OF **COMMUNITIES**

OUTCOMES FOR
**INDIVIDUALS
AND FAMILIES**

THE "UNHEALTHY STREAM" INCREASES INEQUITIES

class and gender bias
intergenerational
poverty
structural racism &
discrimination

dilapidated housing
unemployment & low wage work
food insecurity
limited & unsafe parks
pollution & toxic exposures
absence of community economic development
disproportionality in justice system
unsafe neighborhoods
no insurance or quality healthcare

poor health status
incarceration
obesity
homelessness
health problems
untreated mental illness
low birth weight

THE "HEALTHY STREAM" CREATES EQUITY

pro-equity policies
combating structural
racism
diversity and inclusion

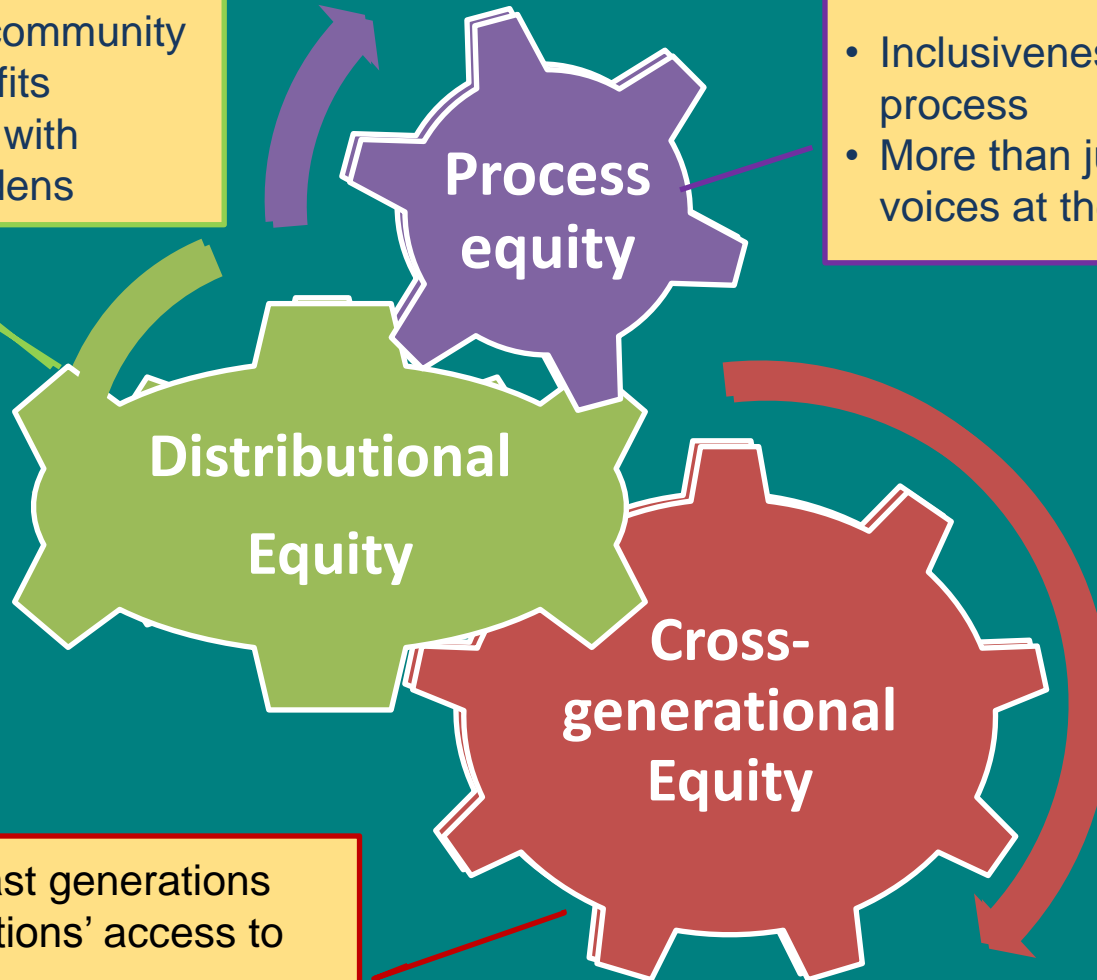
affordable housing
living wage jobs & job training
quality education & early learning
healthy food & food systems
equitable justice system
community economic development
healthy built & natural environments
transportation
safe & supportive neighborhoods
parks & natural resources
health care & human services

good health
high quality of life
healthy years lived
happiness & satisfaction
on time graduation
civic engagement
physical & emotional well-being

Equity and social justice dimensions

- Fair access to community resources/benefits
- Not overloaded with community burdens

- Inclusiveness in decision process
- More than just 'mainstream' voices at the table



- Respect for past generations
- Future generations' access to their fair share
- Not inheriting disadvantages

Equity Tools

■ Equity Impact Review

- To ensure that equity impacts are rigorously and holistically considered in the design and implementation of the proposed action

■ Community Engagement

- To promote robust public engagement that informs, involves, and empowers people and communities

■ Language Access

and information

EQUITY IMPACT REVIEW PROCESS



Continuum of community engagement



King County

Levels of Community Engagement

We inform	We consult	We engage in dialogue	We and community work together	Community directs action
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Characteristics of Engagement

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primarily one-way channel of communication One interaction Term-limited to event Addresses immediate need of county and community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primarily one-way channel of communication One to multiple interactions Short to medium-term Shapes and informs county programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two-way channel of communication Multiple interactions Medium to long-term Advancement of solutions to complex problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two-way channel of communication Multiple interactions Medium to long-term Advancement of solutions to complex problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two-way channel of communication Multiple interactions Medium to long-term Advancement of solutions to complex problems
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Strategies






Media releases, brochures, pamphlets, outreach to vulnerable populations, ethnic media contacts, translated information, staff outreach to residents, new and social media	Focus groups, interviews, community surveys	Forums, advisory boards, stakeholder involvement, coalitions, policy development and advocacy, including legislative briefings and testimony, workshops, community-wide events	Co-led community meetings, advisory boards, coalitions, and partnerships, policy development and advocacy, including legislative briefings and testimony	Community-led planning efforts, community-hosted forums, collaborative partnerships, coalitions, policy development and advocacy including legislative briefings and testimony
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Percent Linguistically Isolated by Census Tract, with Cities, King County, Washington, 5-year Average 2006-2010

Legend

-  King County border
-  Cities
-  Water

Percent Linguistically Isolated

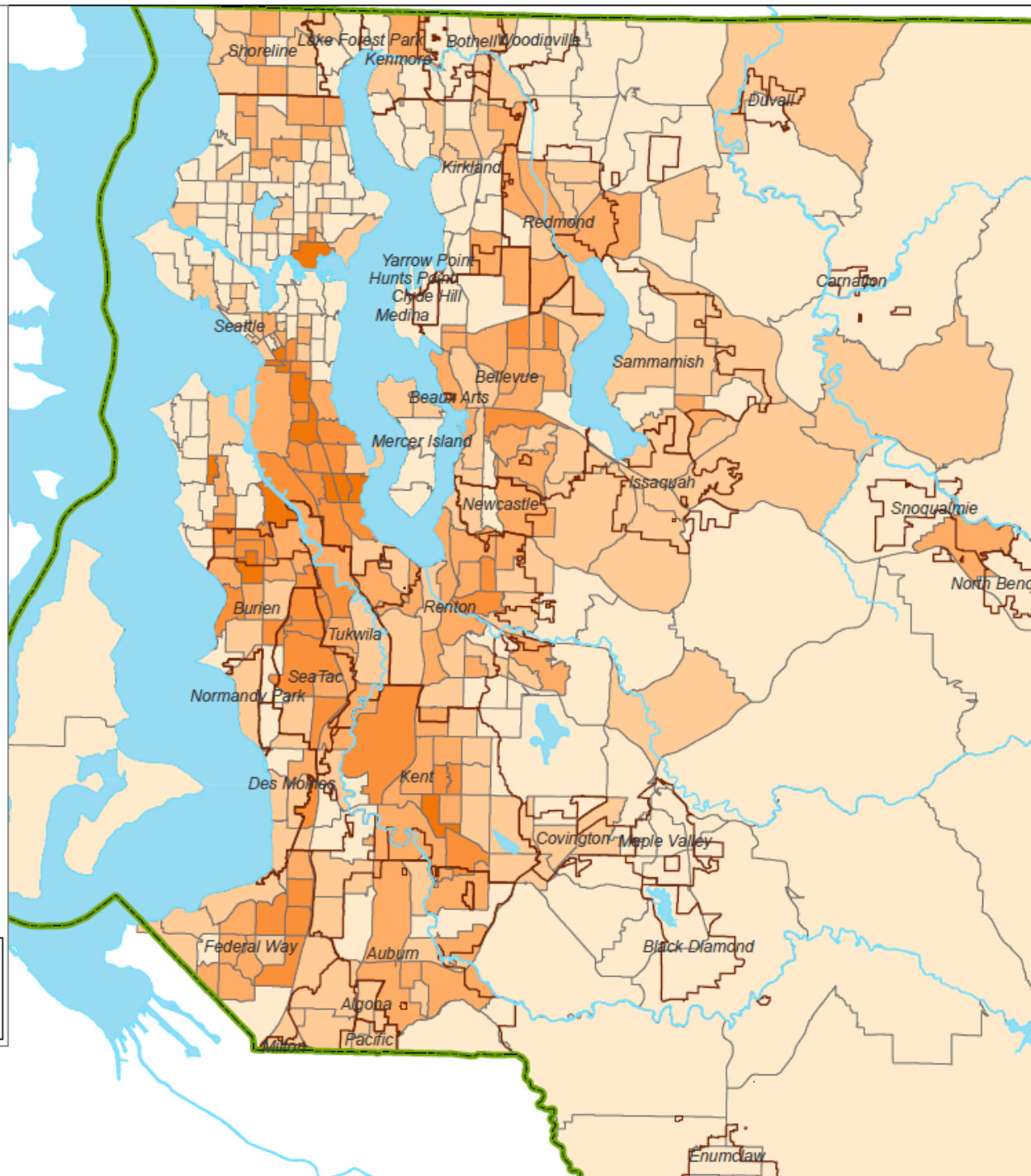
-  0% - 3.1%
-  3.2% - 7.1%
-  7.2% - 13.3%
-  13.4% - 23.3%
-  23.4% - 53.4%

0 1 2 4 6 8
 Miles

Public Health
Seattle & King County



Data Source: US Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey
Produced by: Public Health - Seattle & King County; Assessment, Policy Development & Evaluation Unit, 6/26/2012



Discussion questions:

1. How is equity policy intent relevant to rural forestry?
2. Are there examples of positive progress that should build on/from?
3. How can King County better collaborate with you on this topic?
4. What is the more 'equitable' state of rural forestry? ...
.... What does success look like?

Thank you!!

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